



April 27, 2017

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Spectrum Bands Above 24 GHz et. al.*, GN Docket No. 14-177, IB Docket No. 15-256, WT Docket No. 10-112, and IB Docket No. 97-95

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 25, 2017, Hughes Network Systems, LLC (“Hughes”) met with Commissioner Mignon Clyburn and wireless, international, and public safety advisor, Daudeline Meme, to discuss Hughes’s most recent filings in the above-referenced proceeding.¹ Hughes was represented by Pradman Kaul, President and CEO; Dean A. Manson, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Secretary; Paul Gaske, Executive Vice President, HNS North America; David Zatloukal, Executive Vice President, Products and Services; Jennifer A. Manner, Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs; and Jodi Goldberg, Associate Corporate Counsel, Regulatory Affairs.

In the meeting, Hughes discussed how this proceeding impacts Hughes’s ability to provide satellite broadband services across the United States; including its ability to access sufficient spectrum to meet users demands and its ability to site individually licensed earth stations in areas of the country where Hughes has access to the requisite resources and facilities needed for its operations, such as roads, data centers, fiber connectivity and qualified highly-skilled personnel.

Hughes explained that it is critical for the FCC to embrace the principal of technology neutrality in this proceeding to ensure equitable competition among platforms; providing each platform with sufficient access to the spectrum resource to compete with other technologies. This is not a call to treat all technologies as equals – that apportionment of spectrum should be divided equally among technologies – but rather that the platforms should be granted adequate access to the spectrum resource to enable them to compete with other platforms based on the strengths of the technology itself within a given market segment. Satellite broadband competes on the important attributes of coverage, cost and availability for consumers across the United States, and thus provides an important competitive alternative to fiber for broadband services.

Pursuant to the Commission’s rules, this notice is being filed in the above-referenced dockets for inclusion in the public record. Please contact me should you have any questions.

¹ See Reply Comments of EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation and Hughes Network Systems (Oct. 31, 2016); Reply Comments of EchoStar Satellite Operating Corporation and Hughes Network Systems, LLC (Jan. 31, 2017); Ex Parte of Joint Satellite Broadband Operators (Apr. 13, 2017).

Hughes Network Systems 11717 Exploration Lane • Germantown, MD 20876 • Tel: 301.428.5500 • www.hughes.com

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jodi Goldberg

Jodi Goldberg
Associate Corporate Counsel, Regulatory Affairs
Hughes Network Systems, LLC
11717 Exploration Lane
Germantown, MD 20876
(301) 428-7140

cc: Daudeline Meme